

# ***Waterbury/Stowe Fish and Game Club***

**April 7, 2010**

(Unapproved Minutes – Minutes will be approved at the next meeting)

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Prior to the start of the meeting, local residents Kate Carter and Jan had asked to address the members present at the meeting. Kate and Jan expressed their concern about the noise from the rifle range. They stated that there is noise all day long, every day and that it is annoying. She also believes that the web site is unclear about the current rules of the range (Dave noted that the range hours are on file with the Town of Waterbury). A member who is also a neighbor respectfully disagreed with the noise level coming from the range. He felt that he and his wife hear more noise from the Ethan Allan Range than from the Club range. Dave Grenier said that the Club has recently made changes to the range rules and addressed noise in several ways:

- There is now a restriction of gun shots to three round bursts on the range.
- Sunday range hours are limited to 12 noon to 7 p.m..
- Self-policing by members – members have been talking to people at the range to remind them of the rules.
- Several members have gone to the Club to investigate after Kate called them.
- Education: Recent newsletters to members have addressed range rules.

Dave and several members emphasized that the Club believes that people using the range to target practice with their firearms is safer than doing so in back yards or on public land. The Club also believes that increased focus on education and promoting the rules and regulations, as well as member participation in policing the range takes time but is the best way to change behavior. Also, the noise level will decrease as spring develops and trees leaf out. In addition, members of the Club are self-policing and talking to members at the Club. Dave thanked Kate and Jen for addressing the members and prepared for the business portion of the meeting.

The Meeting was called to order by President Dave Grenier. There were 16 members and two guests present.

## **Secretary's Report**

Izzi Keiser read the minutes of the last meeting held on January 6, 2010. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read that was seconded and unanimously approved.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Tom did not prepare a report for this meeting. He noted that membership renewals are coming in very well. There are a lot of repeat memberships. It was decided that since there was no formal report, no motion/vote was necessary.

## **New Business**

*Membership Prices:* Clarification. The members present discussed the parameters of life memberships. Life memberships are for one person – there are no family or junior life memberships. The cost has always been 10 times the cost of one adult membership – which is currently \$30. The group agreed to set the life membership cost each year instead of using the 10x formula. Tom Sandretto moved to set the life membership cost for the remainder of 2010 and 2011 at \$300 per individual. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

*Grant money for shooting ranges:* Several members reviewed the application. There were many stipulations to accepting grants that were felt would not be manageable by the Club. No application for a grant would be made this year.

*House 484 – Chemicals of High Concern –* There was discussion of this bill at local gun shows. VT is looking to mirror the same laws as other states (one of which would ban the use of lead entirely). While members present didn't know the current status of the bill, it was felt that we should keep it in mind.

*Work Bee –April 24<sup>th</sup>* - It was noted that it is also the first day of youth turkey day.

*Membership Dues –* Billy reported that 581 newsletters were sent out. Tom reported that 268 members have paid renewals. That means 313 members have not yet paid.

*Duck Race –* The Waterbury July 4 Celebration will be held June 26<sup>th</sup>. Plans are in progress

*Range Hours –* It was noted that the range hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday (**NO** shooting on Wednesdays because that is archery night) and 12 noon to 7 p.m. on Sundays. It was also noted that the three-round burst rule is extremely unpopular with some members. Tom held up a note from a member in which he had returned his membership card and had made comments about the new rule.

Chris Joyal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously accepted. The next meeting will be June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Izzi Keiser  
Secretary

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